



State of California
The Natural Resources Agency
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

PROJECT TITLE	Ben Lomond Training Center Trench Rescue Class		
PROJECT LOCATION	Portions T9S, R3W, Rancho San Vicente, MDBM	COUNTY	Santa Cruz
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
CONTACT	Andrew Hubbs		
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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The San Mateo – Santa Cruz Unit will be hosting a trench rescue class at the Ben Lomond Training Center in the spring of 2014. If funding allows, the class may be held at the training center on an annual or semi-annual basis. A key instructional component of the class involves simulated rescue in trenches designed to portray what responders may encounter in the field. As a result two trenches, one T-shaped and one L-shaped will be excavated. The trenches will be up to approximately 20 feet in length and 8 to 10 feet in depth. The project will be located in a field at the training center formerly used as a state nursery for raising trees. An excavator will be used to construct the trenches; spoils will be staged near the trenched locations and backfilled following the class.

EXEMPTION STATUS

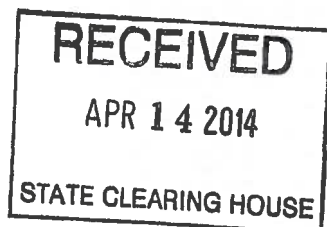
- ☒ Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class 4 §15304 Minor Alterations to Land
☐ Statutory Exemption (state code section):
☐ Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)
☐ Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
☐ Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))


REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT

The work proposed is a minor alteration to vegetation which does not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees and is consistent with Categorical Exemption Class 4 - Minor Alterations to Land (Title 14 CCR §15304 – Minor Alterations to Land: (f) Minor trenching and backfilling where the surface is restored.). No activity is proposed that is listed as a limitation under CCR 15300.2 (a-f).

Field review by CAL FIRE staff confirmed that no exceptions apply which would preclude the use of a Notice of Exemption for this project. The Department has concluded that no significant environmental impact would occur to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland/timberland, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation/traffic, or to utilities and service systems. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the Department is kept on file at San Mateo-Santa Cruz Unit Headquarters, 6059 Highway 9, Felton, CA 95018.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING




for Duane Shintaku, Deputy Director Date
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection